

BOUGHT
WIT IS
BEST.



OR,

TOM LONGS

Journey to London, to

buy Wit.

2. w. 8.

Many men learne after-Wit

By errors which they doe commit.



LONDON.

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sold at his Shop on Snow-hill, over against the
Sarazens head.

1634.



*To the Reader gentle
or ungentle.*

Looke as a Child laid forth into a Wood,
Wher salvage beasts do hunt abroad for food,
Unto their bloody jaws is made a prey,
Or els some Forrester who comes that way
In pitty takes it up, and brings it home
To his Wife, who nurses it oven as her owne.
So this same little Booke swaddled in a sheete
And laid forth in the world, with foes shall meete
Who like wild beasts when they doe on it light,
Will seeke by all meanes to destroy it quite,
Some with the Ape when they have it espied,
Straight with some scornfull mock will it deride,
And by some wanton Goate it may bee pusht,
Because it hath no lines to stirre up lust,
And some great Beare that doth with drinking foame
May chance to rend it meeting it alone,
Or els some Leopard, whose red face doth shine
Being full of spots with drinking too much wine,

May

To the Reader gentle or ungentle.

May prey on it, and with his pawes may teare it
To light Tobacco, (for I much doe fear eir)
Or it may fortune, that some idle Ass
May kicke at it, as hee along doth passe
Thus every way endangered, unlesse you
(Kind Readers) freely doe vouchsafe to shew
Your generous favour for to cherriish this
Poore Infant, which cannot yet doe amisse:
And now is laid forth in the world to try
Her gentle kindnes, or her cruelty
By one who hath adventur'd first of all
To take it up and lay it on his stall.
Encourage his beginning, and he will
Entreate his friend to climbe the Muses hill,
Who having tasted of their Spring, shall write
Some fresh conceits to yeeld you free delight.
In the meane time you wisely may learne here,
What some with sad repentance buy too deare,
Since 'tis an ancient truth which is confest
By every one, that *bought Wit is the best.*

W. S.

Felix quem faciunt aliena pericula cantum.

Hee is happy sure of whatsoe're degree,
That by anothers harmes can warned bee!

A 2

To

To the Reader.

London esteemed is for choise of ware,
So that the Country thither doth repaire,
For here they may buy any pretty knack
Provided, that no money they doe lack,
Heere you may have fine Purfes for your Wives,
Tires, wires and Bracelets, with good mettald knives,
Scarfes, Rings, Girdles, and pure Kid-skin Gloves,
Which you may buy to give unto your loves.
Heere you may have fine Cambrick and bone-lace,
Or a box of beautie to adorne the face:
Heer's, garters, needles, pins, and in a word,
Ther's nothing but the Citty can afford,
But Wit is in this Booke to sale expos'd,
And many follies of the world disclos'd
So that for a small price you may buy here
That Wit which other men have bought so deere.

W. 2.

P

A

Bought VVit is best.



It was in the time when the Trees are
adozned with sweet blossomes, and the
Birds with charefull voices doe wel-
come in the Spring: When Tom Long
being Carried to the Town of Gotham,
thought in this pleasant time to make a pleasant
journey to London to buy wit, for he knew it was an
ancient Proverb that bought wit is best, and so set-
ting forward, no sooner did he arrive at the famous
City of London, but he tooke up his Inn, and having
washt the dust out of his throat with a Jug o' Beere,
he presently went forth to seeke for his pernitworths,
for the Towne of Gotham had promised Tom, that
if he brought home a whole horse-loade of wit, that
then he should be made an Alderman amongst them,
and be counted the wisest man among all the Towns-
men of Gotham, and besides be rewarded for his
paines, with honour, dignity and preferment. The
consideration whereof made Tom very desirous to
obtaine his purpose, so that he wandered through the
City, gaping and looking on every thing, and asking
at divers shops for this precious commodity, but so-
ner might Diogenes find an honest man in Athens,
then Tom Long could find any wit that was to be sold,
unlesse it were in Bookes, but hee being not able to
reade, would therefore buy none of them, so that stay-
ing long in Towne, as his money decreas'd, so his

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griefe encreas'd, untill at last he espied a man walking with crossed armes, his hat pulled in his Eyes, as if he scorned to looke upon the vanitie of the World, and it seemes he had so much acquaintance with the Muses as to deserue the title of a Scholler, his name was Musario. Tom habing by some blunt discourses made knowne the intention of his journey unto him, he found such witty answers in Musario, that he thought that this was the man ordained to helpe him to his pennyworthes of Wit, and so much he delighted in his company, that he began to be in love with learning, which before he hated, and at last invited Musario to his Inne, whither being come, Tom called for a Chamber, and likewise for Beere. and habing drunke to Musario with some home-spun complement he entreated him to let him know where he might buy a horse-load of Wit, for he was come from the Towne of Gotham to fetch that commodity, there being nothing which was more scarce amongst them, especially they being that Summer to entertaine the Lord of the Towne so that they should need a whole dicker of Wit to provide Maskes and Comedies for his entertainment, & to please his eares with some witty inventions. Musario habing heard Toms speech, told him that albeit the Towne of Gotham had bene ever esteem'd a very barren soyle for wit, yet herein they did expresse their silly more then in any other of their acts and monuments: so (sayes he) though money may bee got by Wit, yet

Bought w^h it is best.

¶ It cannot be bought for money, unless it be at the second hand, which is by woeful experience, for as wise men doe foresee the event of things by the causes, so those that have no experience in affaires, doe then find out their errour when it is too late, the one knows what will happen, and like a skillfull Pilot does avoid the rock before hee come neere it, the other either blinded by the mists of ignorance, or allured by the sweet enchanting voices of the Syrens, sayles on hee knowes not whither, untill at last hee splitte himselfe upon some rock: and so comes to buy Wit at the price of deere experience, as I will shew you hereafter. No sooner had Mulario given Tom a taste of this following discourse, but presently hee began to relish it, and to scrape his thankfullnesse upon the floor with his nailed shooes, so that Mulario had much a doe to make him keepe on his hat, untill at last having made him sit downe againe: Tom earnestly looking upon him, gave him such attention as Midas did when hee judged betwene Pans Water-pipe and Apoloes golden Harpe. When Mulario began thus, Tom I perceiue thou art come to London to buy Wit, which as I said is seldome bought without repentance, for men by committing errors doe at last learne Wit, when they have bene taught in the Schoole of adversity, and bene whipt with the rod of their stone making, for I will tell thee Tom, you have many young gallants whose thrifty fathers have left them an ample estate, who coming to London doe ex-

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change Lordships, to buy manners and complements, and here they goe gaily. live wantonly, spend prodigally, and consume their meanes unthriftily. and yet this golden Calfe, this outside of man does never thinke what will ensue, but drives those thoughts farre from him, & goes on in this path of ruine from the Ale-house to the Taberne, from the Taberne to the dicing house, from thence to the whore-house, and so walkes on in the highway of wickednes, untill at last idle spending brings want; want brings necessity, and necessity brings sorrow and grieve; and then perhaps when he findes that his companions begin to leave him, and does discern the true face and complexion of the world, which was hid from him before under fawning smiles, and flattering protestations, then he begins to perceiue the false friendship of men their cunning deceit and hollow heartednesse, then he sees the folly of mispending time and money, the folly of effeminate company and immoderate drinking: He condemnes idle society, frothy discourses, and empty complements, and now when his purse cries peccavi, he findes the truth of this Proverb, that bought Wit is best.

The second sort that buy Wit at the second hand, are young Daides, who chusing by their fancy, and not by Iudgement, doe often cast themselves away on a twofold Rock, for either some wanton amorous youth does so farre inflame and get into their good opinion, that they doe giue him up the keyes of their Daides.

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spaiden castle, and so as Quene Dido by the experience of one houre in the Cave, brought upon her selfe so much misery, that for very griefe shee took revenge of her selfe piercing her tender side with a dagger, because Aeneas had pierced her breast befoze, so those giddy-brained græne wenches, are allured by faire speeches, and wonne by faire perswasions to make a venture, and play the Merchant with their owne commodities, till at last having cast up their bookes, they find that they have lost their Spaiden-head, and got a great belly, and then at last when the world takes notice of it, and that her friends are displeased with her, and the father is run away, then hinc lacryma, that is to say, then they weepe, waile, & lament, and when they find the unfaithfulness of men, the vanity of unlawfull desires, the shame and disgrace which doth rebound unto them: they at last acknowledge their folly, and confesse that bought Wit is best. The other Rock of ruine is when Spaides are enforced to marry against their wills, or else when their will being not directed by reason does perswade them to marry with some unworthy fellow, preferring riches befoze birth, wealth befoze wit, complements befoze constancy, and outward empty appearances befoze true worth, for in such marriages no sooner is the wedding night past, and that the honey and sweetnesse of love is consum'd, but presently all their affection is lost and gone they know not how nor where, and then they wish that they might goe
to

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to Church againe and bee unmarried; but because such knots are not to be untied when they list, therefore they are enforced to live together, though they cannot love together, for now every thing occasions discontent, she growes sullen, he growes cross, she neglects him, and he cares not for her, untill a sparke of Ielousie falls into his braine, which sets all on fire, for now he frownes, lowes, and looks yellow and picks some quarrel against her, so that she is enforced at last in revenge to give him those hornes, which she had not thought to have bestow'd upon him: thus when two are join'd together for wealth not regarding equall affection, which onely maketh love continue Greene and flourishing: You see that Maides are as it were whiptwrackt and cast away, and she that is thus matcht. does at last acknowledge with weeping teares, that if she were now to make her choise againe she would put on her spectacles, for now she hath learnt more Wit, although it be bought by wofull experience.

There is a third way of buying Wit, and that is by suretiship, when some youngman or any other (being of a good nature, and so more easily deceived) is willing to pleasure his friend, and to stand betweene him and harme, by being bound for him and by setting his hand and seale to it, makes so faire a hand, that in short time his friend shrinkes away, and hee is left to the mercy of the creditor, who presently sends out a couple of sergeants after him, who hunt counter

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counter so long, till at last they get him, and so carry him to prison, where he begins to tell over his cards, and finds that he has plaid the nobby: Now he sighes, and is faine to sell his owne meanes to discharge the debt and so at last creeps out againe, and is ever afterwards a decayd man: the pittie of his friends the scozne of his enemies, and a continuall boarder at thre penny ordinaries, and now hee hath learnt wit against another time, and begins to rale against suretiship, whereas a little wit before-hand had kept him from committing thus behind-hand: And thus thou seest Tom that Wit is bought dearly, at the price of sorrow and repentance.

Tom hearing this began to shrug his shoulder and to like this discourse wonderfull well, so that he calld for another Jugg of Beere, lest Musario should grow drie in his matter, and did beseech him to plough out his furrow, and to proceede in his discourse, promising that if hee would come to Gotham, his wife should give him the best dish of Creame that ever was eaten with spoone, and that his daughter at home shou'd be his wife, with all things belonging to her, and because she was a browne sun-burnt girdle, her Mother had some money in a clout to make her penny-white, if Musario would accept of her.

But Musario who could not chuse but smile in his owne conceit, to heare Toms kind offers, began at last to thanke him, telling him that hee was not yet purposed to marry, but if ever hee found himselfe enclined that

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that way, hee would thinke of his daughter, though
for the present hee had cast love into the farthest end
of his thoughts, and was altogether a stranger to a-
merous affection : When I om heard this hee en-
treated him to excuse him, and to proceed in his for-
mer discourse, wherein he told him that hee received
much delight it being the best that ever he had heard
of scene. Whereupon Muscio thus replied, Tom,
since thou dost thirst to heare the latter part of my
discourse concerning bought Wit, I would have thee
know that the day would sooner forsake us, then I
should want matter to goe on; & therefore since thou
art willing to heare, I will not be unwilling to shew
thee how Wit is bought still at the second hand, see-
ing now I cannot chuse but remember in the next
place the folly of you Country men, (pardon me Tom
for I intend not to disgrace Country men, but to ad-
monish them) : I say therefore I cannot chuse but
marvaile to see Country men come flocking up to
London, who falling out amongst themselves about
a meere scone, or the ploughing of a baulke, doe at last
come up to Terme to shew their wrong unto the
Lawyer, who promises them that he will make their
adversary moke, for their cause is good, and their
gold is better, for hee takes it without waighing, but
marke the end of the busines, no sooner does their mo-
ney begin to shrink, but presently the Lawyer growes
cold in the mouth, when the money is spende, then
the controverisie is ended, when theres no money,
then

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then theres no matter to be heard, so that at last
poore Piers pennylesse the ploughman must goe
downe againe to bring up more supplies of money,
he must sell off coorne, and turne his lambs and fat-
lings into copie, and then up he comes againe, and
with cap in hand entreates the Lawyer to take his
money, and to be mindfull of his Case, but at last
finding himselfe delaid, and his money spent, his bu-
sines in the Country neglected, his state consum'd
here at London he returns againe into the Coun-
try, and advises his neighbours not to contend in
Lawe, or nourish the fire of contention: For notwithstanding
though hee hath sold his Oren and his Teame, and
impoverish'd himselfe, yet he hath bought Wit and
learnt this lesson,

Goe not to Lawe in any case,
But rather put up some disgrace,
My selfe I wrongd by seeking right,
And made my purse to grow so light.
Then Country men and neighbours all,
To Law and wrangling do not fall:
Learne of mee this counsell here,
For this same Wit did cost mee deere.

By my holly dame quoth Thomas, I thinke thou
hast some skill in versification, for in my conceit this
rule is very necessary for our Townesmen of Go-
tham to learne by heart as they say, or without booke,

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for not long since Goodman Halse-penny, and Goodman Clod-pole went to Law about a Goose, which came into Goodman Halse-pennies barne to eat ry oates, whereupon they like two geese came flying wher to London, and here the Lawyers pluckt off their feathers, and sent them downe againe as bare as birds taylor, but now since that it is a world to see what husbands they are turned and now they doe rail abominably against the Lawyers which because I would not forget your rule, I would have it in black and white, desiring you to set it downe upon this piece of paper. Say quoth Musario for that your memory know is brittle, I will give you before we part some verses, which I made sometime about that occasion, in the meane time I will briefly lay downe some other kinds of men and women, which doe buy Wit at the second hand.

As namely there are some who are so much addicted to gaming, that they had rather venture their soules by forswearing, then to loose a cast at dice or a trick at cards, yet at last perhaps fortune frownes against them, and sends them away losers so long, untill that his money is gone, and now having plaid it away, he comes to great poverty, and at last hee confesse, that if hee had that estate which formerly hee was possessed of, hee would never handle any of those wicked books or damned bones, as long as hee lived, for now he hath bought Wit, mist pecunia acquiriv ingenium, hee hath lost his money and learnt Wit.

The

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The next which I will mention is Master Smock-love a Gentleman, who is enamoured on every painted beauty, and like a flie buzzes about her, untill at last hee falls into the honey-pot, and is so besotted with those vanities, till finding the sowre as well as the sweet, having emptied his purse, and filled his bones with arches, and the french Camuball beginning to eate of his flesh, making the calves of his legges to thinke away, and his haire to fall off; now when hee looks like the Embleme of time, hee begins to thinke how hee hath spent his time, and to hate all petticoates and white aprons, as two most tall enemies to all mankind, and now when every part about him does in the language of diseases cry peccavi, he begins to be a very penitent Gentleman, and does confesse unto himselfe, that the stings of Scorpions are not worse then a whores kindnes, and now he hath bought some wit by deere repentance, so that his Motto may be mors mea ex morbis, shewing that as hee lived unfully, so hee dyed miserably.

The next Scholler that comes to the Schoole of repentance, is old Barnaby, but he comes in so drunke that hee can hardly see the letters upon the Booke or tell the chalker cyphers which are upon the floore, though indeed he be sometime a good Arithmetician, for hee casts up his reckoning in the chimney, and then hee cries.

My Hostis there is *Summa totalis*, Give me my money for there your ale is. And

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And thus when hee hath uttered his mind with many a hickock, & growes troublesome to the house, perhaps they turne him out of doores, and send him to gather water-creases to coole his stomack, and so having got his money they scout him, and send him packing. But now suppose poore Barnaby hath an impatient wife at home who when Barnaby comes rattling in a doores, begins to beate and cudgell him, and to rayle upon him, so that next day hee goes to the Alehouse againe, and there wastes and consumes his money, so that his wife and Children are almost starb'd while his drinking keepes them from eating, and the begger begins to looke out at his elbowes, while his clothes grow tattered and torne, and he himselfe begins to pittie his owne case, then I say when Mother Repentance hath whipt him with the rod of his owne folly, then hee begins to confesse his owne vice, and trade of that beastly humour of drinking, which hath left him neither money, credit, nor friends, and at last he learns this lesson, that bought Wit is best.

After this comes Mr. Phantasies, who is indeed in a higher forme, this is a humorome youth, delighting in change and variety, and like the Camaleon changing himselfe into all colours, and all professions, hee is sick of himselfe, and never likes his present manner of life, and therefore hee will be meddling in all trades, and where he has no know-
ledge,

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ledge, yet hee will make experiments with the hazard of his owne estate, untill at last hee probe himselfe a ceccomb, and then hee may write underneath probatum est, sometimes hee will undertake new projects, and if all faile, hee will study alchymy, and endeavour to make the Philosophers stone, and at last when hee hath like Mercury chang'd his Sol and Luna, that is his gold and silver into moake and has changd so many shapes, and runne through so many courses, that no man knew in what shape to find him, then necessity comes and bindes him, and as they saie that Proetus could never be seene, but when he was bound: So hee in his next Metamorphosis may be seene in the visible shape of a peape Saturni, that is melancholly black, looking so pale and wan as if himselfe had beene distilled, and now perhaps when hee finds that as many courses tire the best Grap-
brund, so many professions will run a mans praise out of breath, at last I say hee learns this lesson, that bought Wit is best.

The next is a frewant Scholler, one that comes very late to the Schoole of repentance, & this is Mr. Youngage, who in the winter of his age will yet be putting sooth and shew his folly, in the greenness of his desires, for hee will have a young wife to teach him his home-broke though afterwards he confesses that felix quem faciunt aliorum cornua cantina, that is, happy is hee whom other mens homes doe make
to

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to beware, and so at last hee learns Wit, and does
acknowledge his dotage in these words.

Let age beware and have a care,
For if that hee a young wife wed
Hee may weare hornes upon his head.
For shee will soone advance his crest,
This Wit is bought and therefore best.

The ner Scholler in the Schoole of repentance,
is Mist is Light-heeles, who treads so long in
that sinfull path, that her soule is quite gone awy,
till time diseases and disgrace brings her to repen
tance, and shewes her her so ly, though indeed it be
very hard for her to come unto this Schoole at all, be
cause the Diuell keepes her from it, and makes her
believe she is too old to learne, when indeed there is
no time too late for a sinner to returne unto the
Schoole of repentance.

There is another Scholler called Waster Will-
full, and this is a stubborne youth, that will not
acknowledge himselfe in a fault, and therefore runs
on to drinking, roaring, swearing and whozing, till at
last folly takes him up upon his back, and experiences
whippes him with the willow rod of wilfullnesse.

After this comes Waster Wild-ones, and hee
lokes as though hee scould learne, but yet at
last

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doe last out of Taberne reckonings: Taylors bills, Percers bookes, false dice, horse races, and Taffety Petticoates, hee begins to learne theie two letters, O. and that O. brings him to woe, and that woe brings him to have Wit when all is done.

A Nother Scholler to this Schoule is young Nan Greenely, who having eaten forbidden fruite, growes sick with it for the stones lie in her stomack, untill at last shee has morning qualmes, and blew circles under her eyes: And then wishes shee, shee had never bene so fond of the Shepheards Datens pipe. which has now occasioned all her melancholly by venturing, for one fit of mirth.

The next Scholler is Mr. Quarrellsome, who having either lost some of his wjnts, or having an eye put out in some Taberne fray, or els having slaine a man by a desperate blow of a quart pot, or the stab of his dagger, does at last come to the schoole of repentance: And perhaps having sab'd himselfe by his Wooke, does live quietly all his dayes afterward, and leaves quarrelling as a badge of cowards, and a thing hatefull to civill company.

After him comes Mr. Careles, who spendes all, and scoznes to take care for any thing, hee will goe with his cloathes seame rent, and trusts to for time for new ones, but at last repentance takes him

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to schooling and teaches him a new lesson, shewing him that carelesnes brings care, and waste brings want and beggerie.

The next that is admitted to the Schoole of repentance, is Mr. Outside, who takes up silkes, satins, gold-lace, and such commodities, untill at last he is arrested for the payment, and so carried to the Counter, where repentance teaches him this lesson, that 'tis folly to goe in debt for fine cloathes.

The next is Goodman Clouton a Countryman who for making ill bargaines for ill husbandry and for going to Law, is brought into the Schoole of repentance and confesses his fault: For these three namely, ill bargaines, ill husbandry, and going to Law, doe commonly undoe Country men.

After him comes Mistris Haughev, a proud Dame, and one that was very straight laced, and high minded, but now being come downe againe, she is laught at, and contemned of every one, so that repentance teaches her this lesson, that pride in prosperity is hated in adversity.

If a lower degree is Mistris Slattergood, who destroys more by lazy ill husbandry, then her Husband can get, so that she will make a Farmer a Beggar.

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After these comes Mr. Haire-braine, this is a rash youth, and is ready to beate all his fellow Schollers, so; as a Hare being started runs right forward, so hee runs on in a passion, in such a manner that nothing can stop him: But yet at last hee is untrussed and laid upon the back of folly, and whipt with the rod of his owne making.

The last Scholler in the Schole of repentance, is a very dunce called Nathaniel Never-mend, this fellow may have warning given him a hundred times: But hee will never learne any thing, and the reason is because hee is stubborne, and selve corrected, so that hee growes worse and worse, and though hee hath beene whipt with his owne folly, yet hee will never mend his fault, and this is the last and worst Scholler that comes to the Schole of repentance.

No sooner had Musario bene speaking but presently Tom Long who sate by listening all this while, began to commend Musario telling him that now hee understood directly, that men were taught Wit in the Schole of repentance, and that hee likt his comparison most wonderfully, and so began to declare his thanks in such unstauble words, that Musario who was more tired to receive thanks for his paines, then to take paines to deserve his thanks, answered him that if hee found any benefit by his discourse, that then his labour was sufficiently rewarded,

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ded, it being his intention to mixe profit with delight, and in a jesting manner to give men counsell, how to shun those courses which doe bring them to repentance: And now at last I will give thee a paper of verses to that purpose, briefly describing the Schoole of repentance, and the Scholiers thereunto belonging.

Repentance keepes a Schoole where men do learne,
To know their faults which they at last discern,
And though abroad like Trewants they doe runne,
Yet at the length unto this Schoole they come.
Where many formes and severall places bee,
To fit all sorts of high and lowe degree:
And heere they are some rules of wisedome taught,
And to the knowledge of themselves are brought,
So that when all the world doth forsake them,
Repentance then into her Schoole doth take them:
Vnto this Schoole there comes the filker Gull,
And Master *Smock-love* that courts every Trull,
And then old *Barnaby* comes reeling in,
Who heere is taught to leave his drunken sinne,
And this same Schoole a lesson doth unfold
To young age, that doth marry when hee's old:
Young Mistris *Light-heeles* too doth hither come,
When as her flower of beauty once is done,
And Master *Wild-oates* this same Schoole doth tame
With Master *Wiffull* Stubborne like his name:
Hither *Nan Greene-looke* likewise doth repaire,
When

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When shee hath got a belly full of care,
And Master *Quarrell* that will ne're agree,
Comes to repentance Schoole for it is free,
Young Master *Careles* here doth spend some time,
And Master *Outside* in his sute so fine:
With Goodman *Clowson* in his russet hose,
And Mistress *Haughy* that so bravely goes,
Dame *Slatter-good* doth learne her lesson here
With Master *Haire-braine* that doth nothing feare:
These folly to repentance Schoole doth send,
Together with *Nathaniell Never-mend*,
Who all are here instructed for to know,
That their owne errors brought them unto woe,
Experience with her willow rod doth whip them,
While folly first into their shirts doth strip them,
And holds them on his back till they are payd,
Even with that rod which they themselves had made.
And then at last like Schollers they are brought,
With weeping teares even to confesse their fault:
Then Master *Prodigall* doth at last confesse,
That hee in vices path did long digresse,
His braines and pocket both are empty growne,
And all his friends are like to Swallowes flowne.
For when adversity is comming on,
The seeming friendship of the world is done,
And *Banaby* will learne to save a penny,
Though hee before in pots did spend too many:
Now Master *Young-age* pained with the horne,
Confesses that hee is but made a scorne

Bought Wit is best.

By marrying with a young wife in his age,
 And nothing can his horned gricfe allwage.
 And Mistris *Ligh-beeles* does confesse at last,
 Her wanton games which now are gone and past,
 Diseases now her body have disgrac'd,
 And blackest vices have her mind defac'd
 Her stieness and her aches doe proclaime,
 That shee by backstitch did those stiches gaine,
 Then Master *Wid-oates* will more tamer growe,
 When once hee comes to pay what hee doth owe:
 And if *Nan Greenely* chance to get a clap.
 Then shee with teares bewaies her sad mishap:
 And Master *Carelesse* when he goes thred-bare,
 Doth find this carelesse doth bring on care:
 Thus all the Schollers doe learne after-wit,
 Even by those errors which they doe commit,
 And when in folly they have long digrest,
 They find at last that *bought Wit is the best.*

NO sooner had Musurio given Tom Long this paper of ver-
 ses, together with a coppy of the former discourse, but he
 put them up in his pouch, thanking Musurio for his pains,
 promising him no small matter, if ever hee came to Gotham,
 that with many a f r ying congee, & much loving No fence,
 hee took his leave of him, and Musurio was glad to be deli-
 bered from him. But so it happened that Tom Long contin'd many
 yeeres afterwards in London, and in the fift yeere hee got this
 discourse to be printed, and gave it the Title of bought Wit is
 best, & Tom Longs journey to London to buy Wit, which is
 here sufficiently described, so that it doth afford both profit
 delight, which is the mark that Musurio aimed at, that so by
 mingling wit and mirth together, hee might please those that
 desire to be merry.

FINIS.

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